

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (MCHAB)
DECEMBER 10, 2004
MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Roger Volker, MDiv, Chairperson
Terrence McGaw, MD, Vice-Chairperson
Senator Maggie Carlton
Raquel Knecht, MA
Suzanne Magleby, Social Worker
Michelle Kling, RN, MS
Jeffrey Wrightson, MD
Assemblywoman Genie Ohrenschall
Beverly Neyland, MD
T.J. (Terri) Rosenberg
Fran Courtney, RN, for Donald Kwalick, MD, MPH

NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT

Alex Haartz, Administrator, Nevada State Health Division (NSHD)
Richard Whitley, Deputy Administrator, NSHD
Judith Wright, Chief, Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS)
Kyle Devine, Health Program Specialist 2, BFHS
Jessica Cowee, Health Program Specialist 1, BFHS
Barry Lovgren, Health Program Specialist 1, BFHS
Tami Terstegee, Administrative Assistant 4, BFHS

OTHERS PRESENT

Jeff Monahan, Clinical Manager, First Health Services (FHS)
Phil Nowak, Chief, Medicaid Managed Care and Nevada ✓ Check Up, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP)
Laurie Olson, Management Analyst, DHCFP
Sunny Ashabranner, Vista, Great Basin Primary Care Association (GBPCA)
Terryanna Gunn, Social Worker, Baby Your Baby (BYB) Program in Las Vegas
Patrice Tue, Chairperson, Sex Education Advisory Council to the Clark County School District (CCSD)
Loretta Acey, Science Coordinator, CCSD
Megan Bitter, Director of the Senior Pharmacy, Nevada Cares
Christy Falba, Director of K-12 Math and Science, CCSD
Janice Smith, Manager, Sunrise Center for Healthy Families
Linda Anderson, Deputy Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Morgan Berensten, Governor's Youth Advisory Council (GYAC)
Joann Blosser, GYAC
Rachael D/Souza, GYAC
Elizabeth Fravel, GYAC
Shiloh Howell, GYAC
Jeffrey Lambin, GYAC
Lea Grace Moser, GYAC

CALL TO ORDER

Roger Volker called to order the Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board (MCHAB) meeting at **10:00 a.m.** at the Grant Sawyer Building, Las Vegas. This was a public meeting and the public was invited to make comments. In accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, this meeting was posted at the following locations: Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS), Carson City; Kinkead Building, Carson City; Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City; Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD), Reno; Clark County Health District (CCHD), Las Vegas; Grant Sawyer Building, Las Vegas and the Nevada State Health Division website at www.health2k.state.nv.us.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made around the table.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF OCTOBER 15 2004

Assemblywoman Genie Ohrenschall motioned for the minutes to be approved. Dr. Beverly Neyland seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

UPDATE ON MEDICAID MANAGED CARE AND NEVADA √ CHECK UP

Phil Nowak gave the Board an update on Medicaid enrollment numbers. He stated it had been flat for the last several months, with the exception as a function of the systems implementation there has been an initiative to tighten the flow of information from the Welfare eligibility system, Nomads, into Medicaid management information. Mr. Nowak stated there were records that needed to be updated and verified. Mr. Nowak stated the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Children's Health Assurance Program (CHAP) and Medicaid the enrollment is approximately 85,000. Nevada √ Check Up, however, has continued to increase. Mr. Nowak stated from November to December 2004, the number of additional participants was well over 700. Mr. Nowak also informed the Board, Nevada √ Check Up has a 30-day turn around for applications and there is not a back log. Mr. Nowak stated in Clark County the dental network is being expanded beyond the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) School of Dental Medicine through the Health Plan. The Health Plan is merging with the Nevada Health Centers which is assuming the responsibility for Miles for Smiles. The intent is to enable the Nevada Health Centers to continue the mobile units in schools throughout the Clark County area and working towards a permanent clinic development. Mr. Nowak informed the Board the claim reimbursement rate for Medicaid is higher now than before the conversion. Mr. Nowak informed the Board Medicaid is approaching the halfway mark in terms of the roll out of electronic filing throughout the state and once the electronic filing is set up there isn't a cost for the transactions and the claims should be reimbursed within 30 days. Dr. Neyland asked Mr. Nowak if he could tell her, out of the number of clients Nevada √ Check Up is budgeted for, what percentage is actually enrolled? Mr. Nowak answered approximately 26,000 children and Medicaid is about 170,000. Mr. Nowak also stated the Children's Health Assurance Program (CHAP) is close to the Nevada √ Check Up enrollment and added it has approximately 25,000-30,000 children enrolled. Mr. Volker stated from about 1998-2002 with the Nevada √ Check Up program there was an increase from about 0 to 20,000 children enrolled. From 2002-2004 Nevada √ Check Up has stayed within the range and statistics show there are twice those numbers of children who are eligible. Mr. Volker said he was very concerned Nevada has reached the status quo in terms of growth in enrollment for the Nevada √ Check Up program and he is very concerned about there being twice as many children not covered then are being covered. Mr. Volker asked the Board to put this issue high on the MCHAB agenda. Dr. Neyland asked for some numbers of what the UNLV School of Dental Medicine will cover. Mr. Nowak said he will get them. Dr. Jeffrey Wrightson stated there are three or four programs in the South and is the Division negotiating

with any other Managed Care providers or programs and what would be the plan if the South was ever left with one program instead of three or four? Mr. Nowak answered yes, but there is a selection process so not any willing physician can be a Medicaid provider. Mr. Nowak added the two year contract will end in June 2005 and he stated the goal is to have richer participation in the Medicaid program by that time if not sooner. He also stated the contract can be renewed in one year increments but it has to be approved by a formal amendment. Dr. McGaw asked if Mr. Nowak could get the numbers of tubal ligations performed five years ago and the number of them being performed currently to compare. Mr. Volker stated last summer the asset test was removed for pregnant women and the Board had asked Mr. Nowak to check to see how the removal of that data has affected the access to care. Mr. Nowak stated he would be happy to get that information.

Mr. Nowak introduced Jeff Monahan, Clinical Manager, First Health Services (FHS) to discuss the Medicaid formulary for pediatrics. Mr. Monahan stated FHS represents the fee for services portion of Medicaid only. He informed the Board, Assembly Bill (AB) 384, the Nevada Preferred Drug List, was passed in the 2003 legislative session. It required the Department of Human Resources (DHR) to compile a list of preferred drugs and also mandated the Governor appoint a pharmacy and therapeutics committee, which he did; it is made up of five physicians and five pharmacists. Mr. Monahan informed the Board this Committee is a decision making body and has the decision of what drugs get put on the Preferred Drug List. Megan Bitter, Director of Senior Pharmacy, Nevada Cares, gave some background on the company. Senator Carlton stated she is very active in the Culinary Union and she stated generic drugs are given to the Union Members for free to get them to take generic rather than name brand prescriptions and in doing this have cut down the pharmacy costs tremendously. She also stated by doing this it makes more money available for the more expensive prescriptions for pediatrics. Senator Carlton suggested to Ms. Bitter she look into how this works and see if it could be a possibility for Nevada. Dr. Neyland asked if the immunizations come through Ms. Bitter as well. Ms. Bitter stated no.

DISCUSSION WITH CLARK COUNTY SEX EDUCATION STAFF REGARDING SEX EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY AND DIRECTION TO STAFF

Kyle Devine stated throughout the last year he had been taking a look at the sexual education curricula in the State of Nevada because teen pregnancy prevention (TPP) is one of the Governor's Youth Advisory Council (GYAC) priorities. During the June meeting it was requested that representatives from the Clark County School District (CCSD) be invited to comment on what is being taught to students in the district. Mr. Devine introduced Loretta Acey, Science Coordinator, CCSD, as well as, Christy Falba, Director of K-12 Math and Science, CCSD. Ms. Acey informed the Board CCSD follows the Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 389. Curriculum documents are created by a group of teachers and parents and those give the directive to the teachers, on what they can teach in the classrooms. All of the documents are reviewed by the Sexual Education Committee. Dr. McGaw asked how many years are dedicated to teaching students sex education and asked if the answer could be broken down by age. Ms. Acey answered in elementary school it is suggested the teachers spend eighty minutes dedicated to teaching sex education and it is intermingled with Science and Health. In the eighth grade Health is taught for nine weeks and there are also sex education topics that show up in the Life science classes. In high school Health is taught for half of the year and is a requirement for high school graduation. Some teachers spend a great deal of time and others do not, but it is required by the state teachers teach sex education. Senator Carlton stated teen pregnancy is occurring in younger teens and the majority of the sex education is happening to students who are in high school. There is a lack of education in the younger grades and Senator Carlton stated she feels Nevada is missing an opportunity to prevent teen pregnancies and suggested maybe the school districts look into starting thorough sex education at a younger age. Ms. Acey answered each school district is different. They all interpret the NRS differently and teach based on their interpretation. Senator

Carlton asked Ms. Acey if the curriculum documents in Clark County are reviewed, changed and updated. Ms. Acey responded the curriculums are under constant review. The longest the documents would go without being reviewed would be seven years but they do not go that long. Mr. Devine stated a sex education survey was produced by the Child and Adolescent Program with BFHS and it asked all of the school districts in Nevada to provide a copy of their sex education curriculums. Once the copies came back to the program each of them were reviewed and compared to others. There was also an informal telephone survey that was done to random teachers to find out what exactly was being taught in the class rooms. Mr. Volker stated he would like to provide the school district another opportunity to add to the survey. Joan Blosser a member of the GYAC introduced herself to the Board and stated she received two weeks of sex education and she did not learn anything from the class. Ms. Blosser suggested the Sex Education Committee look at what students need to learn in school and sex education be taught more thoroughly and possibly individually rather than combined with a Health class. Ms. Acey stated there are new videos teachers are showing in Health classes which deal more closely with sexually transmitted diseases (STD). She stated teen pregnancy is always a big concern, however there are only approximately nine hundred thousand teen pregnancies compared to three million teen STD's each year. Mr. Volker offered for the MCHAB to assist the CCSD in bettering their sex education curricula's. Dr. McGaw motioned for the MCHAB to give their support, and have a working group to work with them. Senator Carlton seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

PERINATAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION (PSAP) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT FROM MEETING ON OCTOBER 25, 2004, AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING JUDGE ASSAD'S LETTER

Barry Lovgren stated Judge George Assad is supporting Senate Bill (SB) 599, which makes substance use during pregnancy child abuse and would give judges authority to mandate treatment as a condition of probation. Mr. Lovgren informed the Board of the resolutions the Perinatal Substance Abuse Prevention (PSAP) Subcommittee came up with, which included, using the resources Senator Carlton has available to her at the legislative level, and having the Subcommittee look further into what the difficulties are. Mr. Lovgren stated when these concerns were brought up he spoke with Judge Assad's staff at the evaluation center, which is certified by the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse (BADA). Mr. Lovgren stated the staff at the evaluation center are not aware of the many treatment options available to them for referral. Mr. Lovgren stated there are a few programs in the state of Nevada that specialize in the treatment of pregnant substance abusing women. He also stated every BADA funded program is mandated to have resources available for those women. Mr. Lovgren continued his assigned task for further investigation for Judge Assad's concerns is to find out who is allowing the women who have been arrested on a minor drug charge to be released. Mr. Lovgren stated once he finds out who is authorizing this, the problem might be addressed relatively easily because counseling, as a condition of probation can be imposed. Senator Carlton added the only way to do this and not make pregnancy a crime is to attach the counseling to every rearrest for substance abuse. Mr. Volker stated as he understands there are a shortage of programs in Nevada who specialize in helping pregnant women with substance abuse problems. Mr. Lovgren responded there are three or four programs in Nevada who along with helping the general public help pregnant women, who have top priority. Mr. Lovgren stated Maria Canfield, Chief of BADA, is a member of the PSAP Subcommittee and one of the things she emphasized is anything that will increase referrals for treatment needs to be coupled with the ability to provide services. Mr. Volker suggested this issue be sent back to the Subcommittee and they think of strategies on how they can make this a public and legislative based appeal. This epidemic is one of the most costly medical problems in the health care system because of babies being born with life long consequences of mothers having substance abuse issues while being pregnant. Mr. Volker stated he would like the

committee to look into finding ways for programs having more capacity for pregnant woman with substance abuse issues.

GOVERNOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (GYAC) PRESENTATION ON THEIR PRIORITIES AND WHO THEY ARE

Mr. Devine introduced the GYAC members to the Board and gave the Board some information concerning the council. Mr. Devine stated the GYAC is a relatively new council and there are only two returning council members. During their three meetings they have received presentations from most of the programs the State has that deals with Nevada's youth and after doing so they have selected teen suicide, alcohol and drug use, and TPP as their priority issues to be addressed. Mr. Devine stated in the next few months hopefully they will have put together an action plan of how they are going to be addressing these issues and have recommendations for the Health Division and the state. Mr. Volker thanked the GYAC members for being present at the meeting and asked if any of them had any questions or comments. MR. Volker stated the Board would like to applaud the work they are doing and would be welcome to hear of the progress and offer the GYAC the resources the MCHAB has available to them.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS TO BE MENTORS TO THE GYAC MEMBERS

Judy Wright explained the executive order to the GYAC, which indicates the MCHAB members will be mentors to them. Ms. Wright stated in the past there had been an effort to try and mix the GYAC members with the MCHAB members that live in the same area, however this time there are more GYAC members from the North and it is up to the members how they would like to mix with each other. The mentors are; Assemblywoman Genie Ohrenschall and Elizabeth Fravel; Ms. Kling and Shiloh Howell; Dr. McGaw and Jeffery Lambin; Ms. Courtney and Joanne Blosser; Ms. Rosenberg and Rachel D'Souza; Ms. Magleby and Lea Moser; Senator Carlton and Brad Keating; Mr. Volker and Brandin Mann; Jeffery Wrightson and Mark Albers; and Dr. Neyland and Claire Hoops. The Board requested an e-mail be sent to everyone listing the mentors.

BOARD REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF FIRST DRAFT OF THE BIENNIUM REPORT 2004-2005 AND RECOMMENDATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STAFF

Ms. Wright requested the Board send her comments on the report by the early part January 2005

BOARD TO SET CALENDAR FOR 2005

The Board proposed the meetings be held on Fridays and suggested March 4, June 24, September 16, and December 9, 2005. Ms. Kling motioned for these dates to be approved. Senator Carlton seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

BOARD DISCUSSION OF STAFF REPORTS AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO STAFF

Mr. Volker stated he would like to form a working group to look at sex education. Dr. McGaw, Dr. Neyland, and Susanne Magleby all volunteered. Mr. Volker stated he would like the working group to give the Board an ongoing report and work closely with Mr. Devine.

Ms. Wright stated things are moving rather well with the staff. She stated there is a new Deputy Attorney General and he stated this agenda item can no longer be an action item because there is nothing definite on what will be recommended. Mr. Volker invited Alex Haartz and Richard Whitley to share with the Board anything they would like to add. Mr. Haartz introduced himself and Mr. Whitley. Mr. Haartz stated he enjoyed the comments made at the meeting and suggested in the formation of the working group the GYAC members be taken into consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION

Ms. Wright gave some information about handouts that were given to the Board. She stated the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are putting together a meeting on preventing perinatal transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) for infants and HIV testing. She stated the CDC wants a hospital from Reno and Las Vegas to send a team there. It was suggested to send representatives from the two county hospitals. Mr. Wright stated the other handout was a letter from Dr. Robbin Palmer concerning the Genetics Subcommittee not being invited to attend the focus groups. Ms. Wright stated she had attached a memorandum to the letter showing how Sean Crowley tried getting in touch with all of the members and the responses he received. Mr. Volker asked if there were any other comments. Fran Courtney stated she was asked by Linda Yi to report the request for proposal (RFP) 1399. She stated it is a program in which pregnant women are brought into the prenatal care system at the University Medical Center (UMC). She informed the Board to date there are sixty-five women enrolled into the program and the first prenatal class thirty-seven of them attended. Ms. Courtney informed the Board of a grant opportunity that Clark County is applying for. It is called the Healthy Start Project and it is funded through the Human Resources Services Administration (HRSA). This particular Healthy Start Initiative relates to health disparities, infant mortality in particular the African American community. To qualify there has to be a rate of 10.58% deaths per one thousand births. Ms. Courtney stated Clark County is the only population where Nevada qualifies and it was between the years 1999-2001. Ms. Courtney stated this grant will provide \$750,000 per year for four years and will help develop a health access health care system for women who are pregnant and their children up to two years after they are born. Ms. Courtney stated the only limitations are the money will be spent in Las Vegas and North Las Vegas only. Ms. Courtney asked Mr. Volker if she could add in her letter this group is in favor of this effort. Mr. Volker answered yes. Terryanna Gunn commented on the PSAP and stated she is very glad to hear there is a Subcommittee looking at these issues. She also commented on the sex education in Clark County. Ms. Gunn stated she feels Nevada maybe going in the correct direction in addressing these issues and urged the Board to please continue. Mr. Volker stated he would like to say the same thing to her and added more of the social workers could help the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The MCHAB meeting was adjourned at **12:40 p.m.**